

# Green Valley Academy – Access and Participation Plan 2025–2028

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## 1. Institutional Context and Overview

Green Valley Academy (GVA) is a private higher and further education provider located in Ilford, East London. Established in 2018, the Academy has grown steadily and now occupies a modern campus facility of over 20,000 sq. ft. GVA serves a diverse and multicultural student body drawn from London and surrounding areas, with strong representation from ethnic minority, mature, and working-class backgrounds.

The Academy currently delivers Ofqual-regulated qualifications from Levels 3 to 7 through partnerships with awarding bodies such as ATHE and Qualifi. These qualifications act as important pathways into university degrees and higher apprenticeships. GVA's strategic direction is centred on inclusive growth, widening participation, and high-quality delivery. With an established reputation for flexible, learner-centred provision, the Academy is seeking to expand into higher education delivery through collaborative arrangements with the University of Wolverhampton.

Our Access and Participation Plan (APP) forms part of Green Valley Academy's commitment to the Office for Students (OfS) and aligns with the University of Wolverhampton's Vision 2030 — to be the University of Opportunity. This plan demonstrates how the Academy supports equality of opportunity across the student lifecycle: access, success, and progression.

## 2. Strategic Aims and Objectives

The overarching aim of this plan is to ensure that every learner, regardless of their socio-economic background, ethnicity, gender, or age, can access and succeed in higher education. Our strategic objectives are built around three key pillars — Access, Success, and Progression — each designed to support measurable outcomes.

Access Objectives:

- Increase participation of learners from low-income households and underrepresented communities by 20% by 2028.
- Expand outreach initiatives to reach 300 additional learners per year through community engagement.
- Improve awareness of funding opportunities and academic progression routes.

Success Objectives:

- Maintain retention and completion rates above 90%.
- Embed tailored academic support and mentoring schemes for all Level 3–7 learners.
- Improve wellbeing provision with a focus on mental health and inclusive teaching.

Progression Objectives:

- Ensure 85% of graduates progress to higher education or employment within six months of completion.
- Strengthen formal articulation routes with the University of Wolverhampton.
- Develop employer partnerships to provide real-world career pathways.

### 3. Current Performance and Evidence Base

Green Valley Academy's performance data demonstrates strong achievement across further education programmes. Between 2020 and 2024, the Academy enrolled over 4,000 students across business, administration, and health and social care disciplines. Key performance indicators include:

- 95% completion rate across all FE courses.
- 90% progression to higher education or employment.
- 88% average student satisfaction score (internal survey 2024).

However, as the Academy transitions towards higher education provision, challenges include:

- Limited historic HE data due to expansion phase.
- Digital access barriers for adult and part-time learners.
- Enhancing student wellbeing and pastoral care capacity.
- Supporting the academic writing and research skills required at HE level.

## 4. Key Measures to Achieve Objectives

The Access and Participation Strategy is structured under three integrated pillars:

### Access

- Deliver outreach events in partnership with schools, community centres, and local authorities.
- Introduce scholarships and bursaries for low-income and care-experienced students.
- Create 'Access East London' programme — a targeted initiative to support prospective HE entrants.
- Develop multilingual marketing materials to reach diverse community groups.
- Host Open Days with University of Wolverhampton representatives to promote pathways and partnership opportunities.

### Success

- Establish a Student Success Centre to provide learning development workshops and academic tutoring.
- Launch peer mentoring and tutor support systems for first-year learners.
- Integrate wellbeing and counselling services with external mental health networks.
- Deliver staff CPD on inclusive teaching and digital pedagogy.
- Implement academic progress monitoring via the Management Information System (MIS).

### Progression

- Develop articulation agreements with the University of Wolverhampton for Level 4–7 progression.
- Establish an Employer Partnership Forum with 15 partner organisations by 2028.
- Set up a Career Support Hub offering CV clinics, interview coaching, and networking events.
- Maintain alumni tracking through the MIS to monitor post-graduation employment outcomes.
- Offer research and project-based learning opportunities linked to industry practice.

## **5. Student Voice and Representation**

Student representation plays a central role in shaping access and participation strategies at Green Valley Academy. Student feedback is collected through surveys, focus groups, and the Student–Staff Consultative Committee (SSCC). Key issues and actions are reviewed quarterly by the Learning, Teaching and Quality Enhancement Committee (LTQEC) and reported to the Governing Body.

Each cohort elects a Student Representative who contributes to decision-making and quality enhancement processes. The Academy publishes an annual ‘You Said, We Did’ report summarising key feedback themes and institutional responses. This ensures transparency, accountability, and ongoing dialogue between students and leadership.

## **6. Monitoring, Evaluation, and Governance**

Monitoring and evaluation are embedded in the Academy’s governance framework. The Head of Quality and Compliance oversees the implementation of the Access and Participation Plan, supported by the LTQEC. Progress is reviewed each semester and reported annually to the Governing Body and University of Wolverhampton.

Evaluation methods include:

- Analysis of MIS data for retention, achievement, and progression.
- Student and staff feedback on equality and inclusion measures.
- Annual IAG and Access Self-Assessment Report (SAR).
- Benchmarking against OfS and QAA metrics.
- Publication of an Access and Participation Impact Report (APIR) on the website.

## **7. Targets, Milestones, and Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)**

Green Valley Academy has set clear and measurable targets for 2025–2028:

- 20% increase in enrolment from underrepresented backgrounds.
- 90% student continuation rate.
- 85% progression to higher education or employment.
- 90% satisfaction in annual student surveys.
- 15 new employer partnerships by 2028.

Each KPI is monitored through the Quality Improvement Plan (QIP) and forms part of the annual institutional performance report.

## 8. Conclusion

Green Valley Academy's Access and Participation Plan reflects our commitment to inclusive excellence, opportunity, and student success. Through this plan, the Academy will strengthen its partnership with the University of Wolverhampton, expand participation across diverse communities, and contribute to the national goal of widening access to higher education.

This plan will be reviewed annually, ensuring continuous improvement and measurable impact across all stages of the student journey.

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